



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77369

USUI, Minoru, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/662,397

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 1476

Examiner: Andre JACKSON

Filed: September 16, 2003

For: LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER,
AND INK CARTRIDGE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except that no copies are provided of any U.S. patents, U.S. patent publications, and U.S. patent applications filed after June 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant has submitted English abstracts thereof.

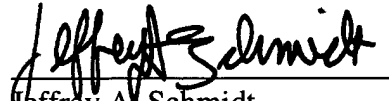
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The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 17, 2004

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Application Number	10/662,397
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First Named Inventor	USUI, Minoru
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	Andre JACKSON
Attorney Docket Number	Q77369

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 4,677,448		6/30/1987	Mizusawa et al.
		US 2003/0117450	A1	6/26/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0043216	A1	3/6/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0117451	A1	6/26/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0071862	A1	4/17/2003	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0135623	A1	9/26/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 4,337,470		6/29/1982	Furukawa
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		US 2002/0170353	A1	11/21/2002	Usui et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		CN	1274645	A	11/29/2000		Abstract
		EP	885 731	A2	12/23/1998		
		EP	860 284	A2	8/26/1998		
		EP	956 964	A2	11/17/1999		
		EP	803 365	A2	10/29/1997		
		EP	676 624	A2	10/11/1995		
		JP	62-184856	A	8/13/1987		Abstract
		JP	8-34123	A	2/6/1996		Abstract
		JP	2000-43287	A	2/15/2000		Abstract
		JP	56-39413	A	4/15/1981		Abstract
		JP	10-323997	A	12/8/1998		Abstract
		JP	11-10909	A	1/19/1999		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,536,861	B1	3/25/2003	Usui et al.
		US 6,361,136	B1	3/26/2002	Watanabe et al.
		US 6,438,500	B1	8/20/2002	Froger et al.
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		JP	11-277760	A	10/12/1999		Abstract
		JP	11-334107	A	12/7/1999		Abstract
		JP	4-234670	A	8/24/1992		Abstract
		JP	5-318757	A	12/3/1993		Abstract
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		US 6,012,794	A	1/11/2000	Nakano et al.
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		US 4,310,957		1/19/1982	Sachs
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		JP	03-218847	A	9/26/1991		Abstract
		JP	06-155762	A	6/3/1994		Abstract
		JP	09-029991	A	2/4/1997		Abstract
		JP	09-220216	A	8/26/1997		Abstract
		JP	09-039263	A	2/10/1997		Abstract
		JP	09-267488	A	10/14/1997		Abstract
		JP	58-201027		11/22/1983		Abstract
		JP	5-25325	U	4/2/1993		Abstract
		JP	59-52422	U	4/6/1984		Abstract
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		JP	3-211907	A	9/17/1991		Abstract
		JP	56-61421		10/17/1994		Abstract

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,610,635	A	3/11/1997	Murray et al.
		US 5,694,156	A	12/2/1997	Hoisington et al.
		US 5,900,888	A	5/4/1999	Kurosawa
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		JP	2-034353	A	2/5/1990		Abstract
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		JP	7-081290	A	3/28/1995		Abstract
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